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News Release

STORM SURVIVORS IN TEN NORTH CAROLINA COUNTIES CAN APPLY NOW FOR FEDERAL DISASTER ASSISTANCE

ATLANTA — Survivors in North Carolina with property damage from the April 16 storms and tornadoes may apply for grants for temporary housing and home repairs, low-cost loans to cover uninsured property losses and other disaster assistance.

Residents in the following counties may apply: Bertie, Bladen, Cumberland, Halifax, Harnett, Johnston, Lee, Onslow, Wake, and Wilson.

To apply for help, register with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) online at www.DisasterAssistance.gov or call **800-621-FEMA** (**3362**). Those with hearing or speech impairment can use **TTY 800-462-7585**. Operators speak many languages.

Survivors can also apply for federal assistance directly through their web enabled mobile phone devices or smartphones. Visit <u>m.fema.gov</u> and follow the link to <u>www.disasterassistance.gov</u> to apply for federal assistance.

Registration through the mobile site takes three steps:

- 1. Go to <u>m.fema.gov</u> and click "Apply Online for FEMA Assistance." You will be directed to our partner site, www.disasterassistance.gov
- 2. Click on "Start Registration"
- 3. Fill out the registration form

FEMA will ask you for the following information:

- The telephone number where you can be reached.
- The address where you lived at the time of the disaster and the address where you stay now.
- Your Social Security number.
- A general description of damage to your property and other losses.
- The name of your insurance company and your policy number or agent if you have property insurance.
- Your bank account routing information if you want FEMA to use direct deposit.

Here's what happens after you register:

• If you report property damage, FEMA will call you within a few days to arrange for an inspector to look at your property.

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- Everyone who registers with FEMA will get a letter telling them whether or not their losses qualify for FEMA assistance.
- If you have questions or need help registering, you can visit a disaster recovery center to talk one-on-one with recovery specialists. Locations of these centers will be announced shortly.

The toll free FEMA registration numbers are available seven days a week from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. FEMA's Individual Assistance program can help eligible applicants with temporary housing assistance, uninsured personal property losses and medical, dental, and funeral expenses caused by the disaster, along with other disaster-related expenses and serious needs. Low-interest disaster loans from the U.S. Small Business Administration also will be available to cover residential and business losses not covered by insurance.

Public assistance is also available to state and eligible local governments and certain private nonprofit organizations on a cost-sharing basis for debris removal and emergency protective measures, including direct Federal assistance, in Bertie, Bladen, Craven, Cumberland, Currituck, Greene, Halifax, Harnett, Hertford, Hoke, Johnston, Lee, Onslow, Pitt, Robeson, Sampson, Wake, and Wilson Counties.

FEMA's mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards.

Disaster recovery assistance is available without regard to race, color, religion, nationality, sex, age, disability, English proficiency or economic status. If you or someone you know has been discriminated against, call FEMA toll-free at 800-621-FEMA (3362). For TTY call 800-462-7585.

FEMA's temporary housing assistance and grants for public transportation expenses, medical and dental expenses, and funeral and burial expenses do not require individuals to apply for an SBA loan. However, applicants who receive SBA loan applications must submit them to SBA loan officers to be eligible for assistance that covers personal property, vehicle repair or replacement, and moving and storage expenses.

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